

THE TRANSCRIPT.

ST. ALBANS.

Friday, August 12, 1864.

NATIONAL UNION TICKET.

For President,
ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
OF ILLINOIS.

For Vice President,
ANDREW JOHNSON,
OF TENNESSEE.

Presidential Election, November 8th, 1864.

UNION STATE TICKET.

For Governor,
JOHN GREGORY SMITH,
OF ST. ALBANS.

For Lieutenant Governor,
PAUL DILLINGHAM,
OF WATERBURY.

For Treasurer,
JOHN B. PAGE,
OF RUTLAND.

FOR CONGRESS.

First District—FREDERICK E. WOOD-
BRIDGE, of Vergennes.

Second District—JUSTIN S. MORRILL, of
Stratford.

Third District—PORTER BAXTER, of Der-
by Line.

State Election, September 6th, 1864.

The Present Crisis.

It is too evident from the speech of people and from the tone of the public press that a feeling of disappointment, not to say despondency, in regard to our military matters, has seized hold of the popular mind. Our people have expected too much in too limited space of time—have been over- sanguine of immediate success. They have not been content to "hasten slowly," according to the Latin proverb. They have raised their expectations too high and with every new reverse they have been gradually growing more and more depressed and disheartened.

This ought not so to be. We should "learn to labor and to wait." As one of our exchanges very properly remarks, "the people of the North have been very frankly told that they would have to meet the rebels fighting with the energy of desperation. The insurgent leaders understand very well their position—which is the defence of the edge of their last ditch, if we choose to make it such. They are fierce and frantic of course; for with them everything is at stake. Are the loyal people ready to accept the opportunity offered them, and the task it imposes upon them? That is the question for them to settle; and they ought to settle it by the sternest determination, to allow no partial reverses to dishearten them, and to push forward the reinforcements so that the fearful struggle shall be the last. This is no hour for despondency or relaxation of effort. It is just the hour for vigilance, resoluteness, and unconquerable vigor and activity. The enemies of the country are full of the courage of men who have nothing to lose but everything to gain. It becomes the friends of the country to understand this, and be equal to the crisis. If they are so, the conflict, however fearful, can be ended, and the triumph of the right be the winning of a secure peace.

The repulse at Petersburg was one of those mortifying incidents which illustrate almost every successful campaign from the time of Hannibal to that of Napoleon and Wellington. Though probably not so severe as Sherman's reverse at Kenesaw Mountain, it will excite for the moment a large measure of Copperhead clamor. Sherman's reverse did not long stop Sherman's advance, and the investment of Atlanta has already dimmed the memory of Kenesaw. So with Grant's failure in his assault on Petersburg. It is bad in itself, but it will have little effect on the decision of the campaign, and will only stimulate the Commanding General to new efforts of skill and intrepidity. Tenacity in holding on to his main object in spite of disappointments and reverses, gave Grant Vicksburg in the end. The same iron determination will, in the end, give him Richmond.

Perhaps our readers would like to have their recollections refreshed with what occurred nine days before the surrender of Vicksburg. On the 25th of June, a fort, which had been mined by Gen. Grant, was blown up, and a strong Federal column advanced to the assault, but after a bloody contest with the enemy was compelled to retire. On the 29th of June, another mine was sprung, but was followed by no assault. On the 4th of July Vicksburg surrendered.

At the centennial celebration at Ticonderoga, 25th of July, an address was delivered by Col. W. E. Calkins, and a poem was read by C. H. Delano, Esq. F. J. Cook, Esq., of the senior class of Harvard College, pronounced the oration, which gave a thorough, graphic, and clear account of the battle. It evinced such an extent of investigation and such a happy condensation of a vast collection of materials in relation to the subject, that it pre-

ed it could not fail to be a standard authority in relation to the stirring events of Ticonderoga in the last century.

The Public Credit.

In our last paper was printed at length the earnest appeal of Secretary Fessenden, which, we doubt not, attracted the attention of every reader. It was a well written and well digested State paper, worthy alike of the subject and its author. We again refer to this appeal for the purpose of alluding to the argument for self-preservation to which he reduced the whole question in the closing part of his address. The maintenance of the public credit is dictated as well by interest as by more elevated patriotism. "The speculator may heap together his gains as he can, the capitalist may turn aside to what he fancies to be more profitable investments; but after all the public credit will be the measure by which their profits will finally be determined. Where is the investment that will remain sound if this government falls? What profits can be counted with safety, if the national credit, which in one shape or another now exists in every man's pocket and in every accumulation of capital, and lies at the root of the prosperity of every institution and enterprise,—is to fail? It is now a question, whether seeming gains shall be real, or turn to emptiness in the hands of him who grasps at them. Let no man think he can evade this call of his country to abandon the pursuit of merely selfish ends and act for the common good, or that by any art of investment he can separate his interests from that of his fellows, and remain secure while those around him suffer. A common interest leads us all towards a common destiny, from which no man or class can escape, unless the general fortune is prosperous; and this can be, only by means of a general and unreserved postponement of selfish purposes, and a hearty devotion of everything to the cause of our country.

The period of a great war is a crisis which demands extraordinary and immediate efforts. The government is not to be sustained by a few casual and scattered gifts; nor, altogether, by the payment of taxes, but by loans, large loans of money. It is the people who are to make these loans, for they cannot be got from foreigners, if the people, being abundantly able, have not confidence enough in the government to lend upon such handsome offers of interest as are now made. And it is for these great loans that the government asks, offering to the most willing patriot all those inducements to self interest which may well secure, as they do, the help of copperheads and rebels, but also asking of patriots not merely that they will lend their money where it is perfectly convenient to do so and where self interest plainly demands it,—for even copperheads do that,—but also that they will go out of their way to help the government, and will sacrifice something for the sake of helping it. It behoves such persons to prefer the government securities, to give up the chance, perhaps, of one or two per cent. from some other quarter, and to run risks, if they think there be risks, in lending to the government.

Therefore we heartily join in the appeals made by the Secretary of the Treasury. The New York *Tribune* well says: "We ask every loyal man and woman to answer promptly this question—How much can I lend the Government without injustice to my creditors or my family? If you can lend \$100, \$500, \$1000, \$10,000, do not deem your duty discharged by proffering half that sum. If you can lend but \$50, put that sum at once in the nearest depository of public money, or intrust it to some banker or neighbor who is making up a subscription, and direct him to invest in your behalf. Bankers and other thrifty men should open subscriptions at once among their neighbors, and even get up public meetings to explain and command the new loan; as every one who pays in \$25,000 at once on account of it will receive a commission of \$62.50. Remember that, though your bonds may be some time in coming, they draw interest from the day in which your money is deposited to the credit of the government in any sub-treasury or National Bank authorized to receive public moneys."

Messrs. Wade of Ohio, and H. Winter Davis of Maryland, have recently criticised President Lincoln's re-construction proclamation in a formal document, which is said to be quite sharp and personal.

To KILL THE CURBANT WORM.—Take one ounce carbonate of ammonia; one ounce nitre. Dissolve in one quart of soft soap; mix the whole thoroughly in nine gallons of rain water.—*Rural New Yorker.*

Several earthquakes have lately occurred at Hayti. One of them destroyed the house of a British consul, the consul being injured in the ruins but not seriously injured.

Mistakes of Publishers.

A curious chapter in the history of literature might be written concerning books that were at first rejected by "the trade," but which, when at length given to the press, brought fame to their authors and profit to their publishers. A list of such books would contain works in almost every department of literature,—theology, jurisprudence, history, poetry, romance, and whatever else.

Strange as it may seem, such a list might be headed by a book so universally popular as Robinson Crusoe. Although De Foe was in good repute as an author, the manuscript of that book ran through the whole trade of London, no one venturing to print it, till at length it came to the hands of a publisher famous for his speculative propensities rather than for his good judgment. He printed it, and cleared a hundred thousand guineas by his venture; and booksellers are to this day making money continually by new editions of it in all styles. Jane Eyre was rejected by nearly every respectable publishing house in London, and was finally rescued by accident from a bookseller's iron safe where it had begun to grow mouldy, by a daughter of the bookseller, who had himself forgotten it. Kinglake's "Eothen" was offered by its author to twenty different houses, till, at last, in a fit of desperation, he gave the copyright to an obscure bookseller, and paid the expenses of publication out of his own pocket. "Vanity Fair" was rejected by Colburn, for whose magazine it was written, that astute publisher complaining that there was no interest in it. Beresford tried in vain to sell the copyright of the "Miseries of Human Life" for twenty pounds; but when it was published more than five thousand pounds were realized from the sales. Buchanan offered the copyright of his "Domestic Medicine" to every principal bookseller in Edinburgh and London for £100, without securing a purchaser. After it had passed through twenty-five editions, the copyright was sold for £1,600.

"The Rejected Addresses" were really rejected by Mr. Murray, without ever looking at the manuscript, though the price asked for it was only £20. A publisher was afterwards found for it, and after sixteen editions had been published, the same Mr. Murray gave £131 for the right to issue a new edition. The total amount received by the authors was more than £1000.

Samuel Drew's "Immortality and Immateriality of the Human Soul," a masterpiece of profound thought, acute reasoning, and logical accuracy, was offered to a publisher for £10. He thought the risk too great, and the book was published by subscription. A second edition being called for, the author advanced the price of the copyright to £20, and found a purchaser at that price. It passed through four editions in England, two in America, and one in France; and as the author outlived the copyright, he gave the work a thorough revision and sold it for £250. The manuscript of the first volume of Blair's Sermons was sent to Strahan, the king's printer, who, after examining it, wrote a letter to the author discouraging the publication. It was not till Dr. Johnson had warmly commended the work, both in conversation and by note to Mr. Strahan, that he ventured to give £100 for it. Such was at first the unpropitious reception of one of the most successful theological books that has ever appeared. The sale was so rapid and extensive that the publisher made Dr. Blair a present of another £100, paid him £300 for the second volume, and £600 for each of the other volumes.

Prideaux's "Connections" was bandied about from hand to hand among the publishers for more than two years, none of them venturing to print it. It remained in manuscript till Archdeacon Echarde, the author's ardent friend, urged it upon Tonson, who published it and made a fortunate speculation by so doing.

Several similar cases have occurred in the history of American literature. Lowell Mason's first book of music, the Handel and Haydn Collection, was rejected by the large publishing houses of Boston, New York, and Philadelphia; but when published, it ran rapidly through forty editions. "Sunny Side" was at different times offered anxiously to five different publishers, every one of whom rejected it. An edition of five hundred copies was at length issued at the expense of the author's friends. In less than two years the fortieth thousand was printed, and it was estimated that the book had then been read by from three to five hundred thousand persons.

It was stated in a literary periodical some years ago, that a New York publisher bought the author of a certain novel from Springfield, and then surrendered from sheer inability to resist importunity any longer. After the book was stereotyped, he offered every inducement to another publisher.

to take it off his hands, but without success. In despair he finally published it, and the sale went up to twenty thousand copies. If rumors current at the time of its publication were correct, "Uncle Tom's Cabin" had a narrow escape from rejection. When the critic of Messrs. John P. Jewett & Co. read the chapters of the story as they appeared in the *National Era*, he decided that a re-publication of them in book form would not be warranted as a business enterprise. His wife, however, insisted that the book would sell, and insisted so strenuously that he recommended it to his principals; and when published it did sell to an extent altogether unparalleled in the history of books. P. H. W. Coventry, Vt., August 5, 1864.

To the Transcript.

There seems to be great negligence in keeping the railroad crossing at the Depot in a suitable condition for the comfort and convenience of the travelling public. Complaints of this to the proper authorities don't remedy it, and the convenience of the public seems to be of little or no importance to them. Let me mention an instance: On going home from church last Sunday evening, people were prevented from crossing the track in the highway by a freight train which stood across the road. They could not go round the train or under it. There was no light visible, and so some forty persons remained there nearly half an hour. The train-men had left that train and were busy with another near the Foundry. This was on Sunday evening, about half past 9 o'clock. Is there no remedy for this, or shall the public submit?

Yours sincerely,
S.
St. Albans, Aug. 10, '64.

HELP FOR THE SOLDIERS.—The following is extracted from a letter written by the corresponding member of the "Women's Central Association of Relief, New York." We invite attention through it to the present wants of our brave soldiers, and the means of supplying them:

"We are in trembling fear lest our supplies of all kinds may give out this summer. Our boxes and packages received are so much smaller than heretofore, and this terrible fighting creates such a constant demand from the hospitals, that we beg the aid of societies to work with all their might. We are anxious, too, that everybody owning ground, and every farmer, should set apart a portion for planting army vegetables. Already the scurvy has appeared in the Army of the Potomac and elsewhere. Sickness, you remember, is more sure and destructive than the bullet.

Such is the urgent demand for bandages from Washington that we have been obliged to purchase them, and they cost us one hundred and fifty dollars per barrel. Is it not appalling? In Washington, wounds have lately been sometimes dressed with new cotton, for want of old linen and cotton. At White House and Bermuda Hundred, the sufferings are grievous for want of appliances of all kinds. Those who send us pickles cannot be too careful in the stoutness of the barrels and casks. They should be without leaks and thoroughly coopered. They frequently arrive dripping at every pore. They are so essential that we wish to encourage their being sent, and so we dread to find fault, knowing how troublesome they are to prepare.

We also beg that fruit may not be permitted to rot on the vines or trees. Let little children pick and dry berries and currants for the soldier. I am sure they will feel emulous to use their little nimble fingers for the poor sufferers. A few stewed currants are as grateful to the sick man as jelly. We also want surgical shirts made as fast as possible, the sleeves open from the shoulder with tapes, and the front also open with tapes or buttons; also, bandages and ring-pads. To be of real service, supplies must be received immediately, for the men die by hundreds after a battle."

Volunteers are wanted for fifty days, as provided by law, who may enlist for one, two, or three years; after the 5th of September the deficiency will be filled by drafting for one year. Recruiting in the rebel states will be brisk for the next fifty days, and able-bodied colored brethren will be in lively demand, but only a small portion of the half million can be calculated upon by volunteering, and we shall have to stand the draft in September. As the term is but one year, and the drafted men will necessarily go into winter quarters for three months at least, the prospect for the drafted is not very alarming. It seems to be the only alternative, unless we go over to the copperheads and make peace with the rebels on their own terms. But there is hope that Grant may finish the business, and show that the draft can safely be dispensed with before September.—*Republican.*

"TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN."—Mr. Lincoln has the reputation of being fond of a joke—of being something of a wag. He must have had a chuckle of secret delight at introducing the rebel commissioners into the country, under the form of words used by a husband to advertise a runaway wife—or a slaveholder, a runaway slave.

The remedies for the inconveniences and defects of clay soils are thorough underdraining, coarse manuring, the application of sand, when not too expensive, autumn plowing, and on a small scale, or for gardening purposes, paining and burning.

THE DROUTH, CROPS, &c.—The drouth has extended over almost the entire country, with greater or less severity; and by the crop returns from the various states, we have the assurance that while our farm products will be less than in preceding years, there is yet no danger of a famine, though we must be prepared for high prices. The wheat crop at the West is mostly harvested, and the yield has been very fair—much better than was expected. The chinch bug is committing serious ravages in some parts of Illinois and Wisconsin, but from Missouri, Minnesota, Ohio, Indiana, New York, New Jersey and other states come the most cheering reports of a good yield of wheat, and fair prospects for other crops. In Minnesota, where the drouth has been very severe, recent rains have changed the face of things amazingly, and the farmers are predicting an almost average yield in everything. A greater breadth of land than usual has been sown to oats and barley, and the reports concerning these crops are most favorable from all quarters. Corn at the West, though late, gives prospect of a good yield. In some parts of Indiana the grain crops are promising such a yield that the greatest trouble of the farmers is the scarcity of hands to harvest it. Whatever else may be short, we have thus the cheering prospect that the supply of breadstuffs will be ample and that famine will not be added to the horrors of war. But loss to the farmers by the partial failure of many of their crops, will be very great, and we shall probably have to live on short rations of many things, whose plentifulness has made them almost articles of necessity.—*Exchange.*

NEWS SUMMARY.

—Carleton, the New York publisher, will soon begin the republication of Dickens' "All the year round."

—An American missionary writes from India that the Hindoo women worship the statue of Lord Cornwallis with great reverence.

—Marshall O. Roberts of New York has presented to the commissioners of the Central Park a beautiful bronze statue of Eve.

—On the 20th ult. the court house and jail at St. Scholastique, Canada, were burned, together with three prisoners, a mother and two daughters.

—The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has decided that all articles of job printing, not included under the head of bill-heads, cards, or circulars, are exempt from tax.

—Paris has 21 mayors and 1,696,151 inhabitants. Last year there were 15-196 marriages, 42,185 deaths and 52-312 births, 14,501 of which were illegitimate.

—Baltimore harbor was lately on fire, and the fire lasted until 1800 barrels of petroleum had been consumed.

—Spurious fifty cent postal notes of the new stamp are out. They are shorter than the genuine ones, and the printing and engraving are generally indistinct.

—The schooner Charlotte Shaw, sent by the Christian Commission from Boston, loaded with ice, vegetables and sanitary stores, reached City Point on the 29th ult., the day before the late attack on Petersburg.

—The brokers' room in the new building just finished in New York for the "open board," is finely frescoed. In the center of the ceiling is represented the goddess of fortune emptying a salver of coin upon the heads of a "bull" and "bear," the latter in the act of hugging the pieces to the earth, while the former tosses them in the air.

—A Canadian journal reports that several considerable droves of horses, purchased in Western Canada, on Confederate account, have passed down on the royal mail steamers during the past few days, destined for Quebec. At that port they will be shipped for a Mexican port, and thence passed overland into the Confederacy.

—A widow, occupying a large house in a fashionable quarter of London, lately sent for a wealthy solicitor to make her will; by which she disposed of between £50,000 and £60,000. He proposed soon after, was accepted, and found himself the happy husband of a penniless adventurer.

—The man who killed Luther Ladd of the 6th Massachusetts regiment, the first one who fell at Baltimore April 19, 1861, was a fellow named Wrench, the son of a wealthy citizen of Williamsport, Md. He used to boast greatly of having killed "that damned Yankee boy soldier that shouted for the stars and stripes as he fell." Wrench was finally killed in a drunken quarrel at Williamsport in the summer of 1862.

—There has been a serious strike upon the Adirondack railroad, and a dispatch from Niagara, N. Y., Tuesday night, reported that about 800 tuesday were endeavoring to drive off the German laborers. Several arrests had been made. The company will take measures to protect those who wish to continue in their employ, and a serious collision between the Irish and German laborers is feared.

—A certain official in one of the German States had occasion to make out a passport for a traveller. The blank was filled out regularly until he came to the line for "particular marks." After much cudgelling of his brain and chewing of his quill, he presently wrote down "freshly shaved."

—A lady named Brown was recently ordained pastor of a church in this State. It is a grave question to decide whether her husband,—provided she has one,—should be called by courtesy Rev. Mr. Brown, or Rev. Mrs. Brown's husband.

—J. F. Stinson, Esq., the well known Road Master of the Rutland and Burlington railroad, has closed his connection with that road, and purchased the "Central House," Rutland, and will soon undertake to manage that hotel.

WAR NEWS.

Hints are rife of important movements of Gen. Grant and troops under his command, the precise nature of which the public is not permitted to know, but the result of which, it is hoped, will give a greatly improved aspect to the military situation in Virginia. About all that has been divulged in any way connected with the matter, is the fact that the Lieutenant-General made a flying visit to Washington on Friday.

We have news from Petersburg to the effect that early on Saturday morning the rebels sprung the mine in the construction of which they have for some time been engaged. Their engineering was seriously at fault, for the Union fort, which had been evacuated in anticipation of the event, was hardly disturbed, and the chief effect of the explosion was to throw up a new earthwork between our and the rebel lines. A charging party, supported by a heavy artillery fire, was sent forward after the explosion, but only about fifty or sixty succeeded in reaching our lines, and these were all killed or captured.

Our forces have abandoned Brownsville, Texas. Rebel dispatches of the 2d indicate that Sherman has complete command of the situation at Atlanta. He treats the enemy to an hour's shelling morning and evening, and is said to be massing and swinging his forces around to westward of the city.

There appears to have been some fighting on the 30th, of which we have no advices. Reports show that our cavalry raiders were creating as much excitement thereabouts as those of the rebels create in Pennsylvania, but one dispatch significantly says that the militia are pouring in.

Hood's official report of the battle of the 28th says that no decisive advantage ensued to either side, but he claims that they held their ground. Other dispatches say their loss was only about 1,500.

The rebels admit a loss of but 1,100 killed and wounded and 300 prisoners in the battle of a week ago in front of Petersburg. They claim to have captured 19 battle flags, among which were the regimental colors of the 57th and 58th Massachusetts, the 11th New Hampshire, the 28th and 31st colored, and the 24 and 20th Michigan.

WAR DEPARTMENT.
Washington, Aug. 8—9 P. M.

To Maj. Gen. Dix:
The following announcement of the successful operations against Mobile appears in the *Richmond Sentinel* of this date, and is transmitted by Maj. Gen. Butler to the President:

HEADQUARTERS GEN. BUTLER,
Aug. 8—3 P. M.

To his Excellency A. Lincoln.—The following is the official report taken from the *Richmond Sentinel* of Aug. 8. B. F. BUTLER, Maj. Gen.

MOBILE, Aug. 5, 6 P. M.—To Hon. J. A. Seddon, Secretary of War.—Seven- teen of the enemy's vessels, 14 ships and 3 iron-clads, passed Fort Morgan this morning. The *Tenuesee*, a monitor, was sunk by Fort Morgan. The *Tennessee* surrendered after a desperate engagement with the enemy's fleet. Admiral Buchanan lost a leg and is a prisoner. The *Selma* was captured. The *Gaines* was reached near the hospital. The *Morgan* is safe and will try to run up to-night. The enemy's fleet have approached the city. A monitor has been engaging Fort Powell all day.

(Signed) D. H. MAURY,
Maj. Gen.

Maj. Gen. Sheridan has been assigned temporarily to the command of the forces in the Middle Military Division, consisting of the Department of Washington, Middle Department, and Departments of the Susquehanna and North-western Virginia. He transmits the following intelligence:

HARRIS'S FERRY, VA., Aug. 8.

Maj. Gen. W. H. Halleck, Chief of Staff:
Brig. Gen. Kelley reports that a scout has just arrived at New Creek, and reports that Gen. Averill overtook the enemy near Mooresfield yesterday and atacked him, capturing all his artillery and 500 prisoners. Nothing official has been received from Gen. Averill.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Maj. Gen. Commanding,
(Signed) E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

A body of Union cavalry occupied Hagerstown on Sunday, the rebels having evacuated the place. They are said to have crossed the Potomac into Virginia, moving in considerable haste, and carrying with them four prominent Union citizens arrested by General Hunter. It is stated that Early's whole force is making for Staunton, with the harvest which has been gathered during the occupation of the Shenandoah Valley. The enemy committed many outrages during their stay in Maryland, robbing shops of their goods and individuals of their clothing.

It is reported that the court of inquiry which assembled at the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac, to investigate the cause of the disaster of the 29th ult., has decided that on account of the illegality of its appointment it had no power to examine witnesses or go into the merits of the question, and it is thought that the matter will be examined by a court-martial.

Our advices confirm the rebel report of the capture of Gen. Stoneman. Brigadier Gen. Wild has just been court-martialled for disobedience of orders. The court found him guilty. Gen. W. F. Smith approved the sentence, which was suspension from rank and pay for six months, and a public reprimand reprimand. Gen. Butler disapproved the proceedings of the court and ordered Gen. Wild to duty.

Richmond papers of Saturday announce that our forces have taken possession of Dauphin Island, south of the harbor of Mobile, and in the rear of Fort Gaines.

New York, Aug. 8.

The *Post's* special Washington dispatch says the War Department has authorized Gen. McClellan to raise 100,000 men immediately for special service under his command. This report is very doubtful.

There is great exultation at the Navy Department over the news from Mobile. The *Tennessee* was supposed to be the most powerful ram in the world. The sinking of the *Tenuesee* is entirely discredited.

The capture of Mobile is confidently expected, and we learn from the front that great excitement exists among the rebels both at Richmond and Atlanta. Military men here say that Sherman will undoubtedly take advantage of the confusion of the rebels, and we look for accounts of a battle at any moment.

Averill's victory in the Valley is confirmed.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9.

Information has been received that Gen. Averill, after overtaking the enemy at Moorefield, attacked and utterly routed them, capturing Gen. Johnson, who subsequently escaped, and his whole staff, with their headquarters, colors, all the rebel artillery and train, and large quantities of small arms.

McCausland barely escaped by flying to the mountains. Averill pursued the scattered remains of the rebel force 24 miles, capturing many of the fugitives. His loss in killed was seven men. The pursuit was only abandoned when Averill's horses were too exhausted to follow the rebels.

On Sunday a rebel train was seen beyond Aldie, Loudoun county, Va. The rebels detached some of their wagons laden with plunder from the main body and moved in an easterly direction from the mountains. In the mean time they were followed by a body of Union cavalry, who were not, however, in sufficient force to make an attack. At or near Aldie the Union force was augmented by about 60 cavalry miles command of Captain Bliss, and attacked the rebel force, capturing some 20 wagons, loaded with grain. These a charge of the train abandoned it.

BUFFALO, Aug. 9.
Rumor is rife of a rebel raid on this city by secessionists and their sympathizers from Canada. It is understood that the government has information of it. The military of this city are held in readiness for any outbreak.

New York, Aug. 10.

The Herald's Army of the Potomac dispatch of the 7th says: The efficiency of the whole command is being constantly increased by the return of convalescents who were wounded in the campaign. There was heavy artillery fighting to-day. A portion of a shell struck Maj. Chapman of the 29th Mass., inflicting a mortal wound.

The *Tribune's* Harper's Ferry dispatch says: Gen. Averill defeated the combined forces of McCausland, Johnson, Gilmore and McNeil in his fight on the 7th, capturing four pieces of artillery, a vast quantity of small arms, 400 horses and equipments and 49 prisoners. Our loss was 7 killed and 21 wounded.

Gen. Meade and Burnside each met the blame of the Petersburg fiasco as the other. It appears by a modification of the order the night previous some misunderstanding occurred, so who should superintend the attack and neither were present to command.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Washington, August 10.

To Maj. Gen. Dix:
The following report of the success of our operations at Mobile, extracted from the *Richmond Engineer* of this morning, has just been received by this department from Maj. Gen. Butler:

MOBILE 8th.—Friday night Lieut. Col. Williams, commanding Fort Powell, evacuated and blew up the fort yesterday, and to-day the enemy are shelling Fort Gaines. The people of Mobile are ready for the fray. Great confidence prevails. The people are satisfied with the conduct of Lieutenant Buchanan and Burnett of the Navy.

MOBILE 10th.—It is painfully humiliating to announce the shameful surrender of Fort Gaines at half past 1 o'clock this morning by Col. Charles Anderson of the 21st Alabama regiment. This powerful work was provisioned for six months with a garrison of six hundred men. He communicated with the enemy's fleet by a flag of truce. Gen. Page enquired by signature what the purpose was to burn the fort, but received no answer. Page reported to have telegraphed "Hold on to your fort." At the same time he visited Fort Gaines and found Anderson aboard the Yankee fleet arranged the terms of cartel.

He left peremptory orders for Anderson on his return not to surrender the fort, and relieved him from command.

Fort Morgan was signalled this morning, but no answer received except the hoisting of the Yankee flag over the rampart of Fort Gaines. Anderson's conduct is officially pronounced as explicable and shameful.

Dispatches just received from Gen. Sheridan report his forces moving against the enemy up the Shenandoah. At 4 p. m., they were skirmishing about ten miles from Winchester. This morning Gen. Grant reported an explosion of an ordnance boat yesterday loaded with ammunition at City Point wharf. No details have been received. Col. Babcock of Gen. Grant's staff was slightly wounded.

Portions of Stoneman's command are continuing to arrive. The total loss will exceed one thousand.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

—The use of tobacco causes amaurosis according to French oculists. Cases have been reported where total blindness resulted.